MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 AUGUST 1981

Iran

Foreign Minister, Khalkhali on Gunboat--Tehran radio carried a recorded interview with Foreign Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi in which he said that last week's seizure of an Iranian gunboat off the southwestern Spanish coast was part of an American plot involving the CIA. He also said the hijackers carried out the operation with the cooperation of the Moroccan Government, which was directly responsible for this act of piracy. In a live relay from the Majlis session earlier in the day, Tehran radio carried a speech by Sadeq Khalkhali in which he asserted that counterrevolutionaries seized the vessel on orders from French President Francois Mitterrand and the French Government.

Approval of Cabinet--Tehran radio broadcast a recording from the 17 August Majlis session that approved, with one exception, the new Iranian cabinet presented to the Majlis last week by Prime Minister Javad Bahonar. The proposed transportation minister engineer, Seyyed Hoseyn Tajgardan, was rejected.

Internal Security--Tehran radio announced on 17 August that 23 Mojahedin-e Khalq members have been executed at Evin Prison. The radio also reported that more than 160 leftists, including members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq, have been arrested in several cities.

According to Tehran radio, a reconstruction crusade member was killed in a rocket attack on a car traveling the Kamyaran-Kermanshah road. A Babol mobilization brother was also killed on the night of 16 August. The radio also reported that the Tehran Martyrs' Foundation headquarters was the target of two attacks mounted by the Mojahedin-e Khalq on 16 and 17 August.

Lebanon

Al-Wazzan Gulf Tour--SPA reported that Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan held two meetings with Saudi leaders in At-Ta'if. In remarks made after meeting Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, broadcast by Beirut radio, Al-Wazzan revealed that he had called on the Saudis to support the convening of an extraordinary Arab summit conference to discuss the Lebanese and Middle East situation. The radio later reported that Saudi Arabia had agreed in principle to the request. On 18 August, KUNA reported Al-Wazzan's arrival in Kuwait on the second leg his tour of Arab countries.

Security Situation--Beirut radio reported that armed clashes between communists and the Shi'ite Amal Movement in a southern suburb of the capital died down after Arab Deterrent Forces (ADF) entered the area to halt the fighting. According to Voice of Lebanon radio, 20 people were killed and 80 were wounded in the clashes. The radio said six ADF soldiers were among the dead. Meanwhile, Beirut radio noted that the contact lines between east and west Beirut were calm although linking roads remained closed.

Syria

Damascus radio reported that an electrical short circuit in the Prime Ministry building caused a fire that killed three government employees. According to Monte Carlo radio, the fire resulted from a big explosion that rocked the government building. Helicopters transported employees to safety from the roof, the radio noted, while security forces sealed off the area. Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm and his deputies were not in the building at the time of the explosion.

PLO

In an interview with the Kuwaiti paper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf asserted that the PLO would grant the Soviet Union bases if it had land at its disposal. Claiming that the United States intends to liquidate the PLO, Khalaf warned that Israel and the United States would launch another strike against the Palestinians "very soon." He indicated that the PLO has asked the Soviet Union for antiaircraft missiles but pointed out that the Arabs themselves can provide enough weapons to defend Lebanese airspace. Noting that Syria has given the PLO permission to stage military operations from the Golan Heights, Khalaf disclosed that Jordan's King Husayn has refused a Libyan request to allow the Palestinians to operate against Israel from Jordan.

Afghanistan

Kabul Radio carried a recording of President Babrak Karmal's 16 August speech to Afghan Armed Forces PDPA activists in which he stated that the PDPA Central Committee Politburo has decided to establish a DRA Defense Council for the purpose of unifying party and state organs and patriotic forces in their efforts to crush the enemies of the nation.

Correction to 17 August Review

Page ii, last paragraph, line one should read: "...the armed forces, reported by Kabul radio, President Babrak Karmal...."

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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BABRAK KARMAL ADDRESSES PARTY ACTIVISTS 16 AUG

LD172333 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 17 Aug 81

["Condensed from" of speech by PDPA Central Committee General Secretary Babrak Karmal at 16 August meeting of DRA Armed Forces activists in Kabul--recorded]

[Excerpts] The PDPA Central Committee Politburo considers the meeting today with the DRA Armed Forces party activists, state information services and sarandy, military and party leadership of the provinces, (?security) and revolution defense groups and the revolution guards to be very important and vital.

In the present situation and circumstances, the most major, vital and fundamental duty of the PDPA Central Committee, the DRA Revolutionary Council and all party, state and military (?organs) is armed defense of the gains of the Sawr Revolution, the complete defeat of internal and external counterrevolutionary elements and the maintenance of peaceful conditions for the constructive work of the heroic people of Afghanistan.

My recent visit and meeting with Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, CPSU general secretary and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the great friend of the Afghan people, is a very clear example of the unbreakable friendship of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. Today, we once again express our deepest gratitude to all heroic Soviet people for their fraternal internationalist aid which has been extended to us in one of the more troublesome and critical moments which were life or death to our motherland and revolution, moments which were the realization of the criminal conspiracies and designs of U.S. imperialism and its Chinese collaborators. The patriotic forces of Afghanistan and all those who respect the freedom and independence of the country will never forget this fraternal aid; our revolution is irreversible and is advancing successfully.

However, it should be clearly stated that the heroic struggle of the people of Afghanistan to build a new life is continuing in troublesome and difficult conditions. International imperialism--headed by U.S. imperialism--hegemonist and reactionary forces, who have become excited at the eye-catching victories of our people, continue their subversive and savage aggressive activities against the Sawr Revolution. Their open interference in the affairs of our country have not ceased. These dark forces have unleashed a filthy war against us. They train and arm counterrevolutionary bands and infiltrate them into our country.

The Washington and Beijing mercenaries embark upon the killing of hundreds of human beings and continue the burning of mosques, schools, crops and stealing of livestock. The weapons which have been put at the disposal of thieves are used against children, women and old people. The enemy is continuing, along with its plundering actions, its poisonous counterrevolutionary propaganda efforts; and by abusing reactionary feudalist nationalism, are endeavouring to defame the friendship of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union and reduce the confidence of the Afghan people and [words indistinct] in the PDPA and the government, and create conditions for rejection, mistrust and lack of confidence in the country. The PDPA Central Committee Politburo views the enhancement of the party role in the resolution of military issues and the raising of the level of party leadership in all processes of struggle against the counterrevolution, as a first step toward taking decisive action against the enemies of the Sawr Revolution.

The basic issues of the development of the army, sarandoy, security organs and their activities for the establishment of revolutionary order in the country should in the future be in accordance with the policy of the party and its guidelines, orders and methods of action. Special attention must be paid to the development of military order, the appointment and election of cadres, the enhancement of their revolutionary consciousness and the preparation and coordination of the actions of all state, social and military organizations toward breaking the resistance of our class enemies.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo considers the constant struggle for complete unity and principled unanimity among all ranks of the party in order to affectively resolve the struggle against counterrevolutionary elements to be a vital issue. The maintenance of party unity constitutes the main and principle part of the activity of all party organs and the base for the successful development of the state and all social life.

Once again I would like to point out that the destiny of our homeland and of the Sawr Revolution depends on the unity and coordinated work of all party members. [applause] To forget this basic principle, that is to say, to forget the principle of the daily strengthening of party unity, is an explicit treason to the lofty aspirations of the Sawr Revolution. The party Central Committee has consistently demanded that factionalism among the party organizations, armed forces and sarandoy must be decisively prevented and those against unity, provocateurs, the greedy and the ambitious must be thrown out of the party.

In most of the party organizations these demands of the party have not been observed and a number of the members of the party, due to their links with previous factions--this faction and that faction--have not stopped their lies, allegations and slanders. It is time for party activists and all party and political organs to stop talking, begin meaningful activity and resolutely abandon factionalism.

The general Political Affairs Directorate of the DRA Armed Forces, the political organs of sarandoy and the security forces, by creating a suitable atmosphere of (?etiquette) among the party ranks, should enhance party relationships and foster comradely relations between the members of the PDPA who belonged to this group and that group, set an example and lead the party organs toward the realization of the party policy, based on all round unity and strengthening of their ranks. This is today's requirement.

The party Central Committee Politburo, in order to unify the efforts of the party and state organs, all patriotic forces and coordinate the moral and material possibilities of the country to completely crush the enemy, deemed it necessary to establish the DRA Defense Council. The Defense Council deemed it necessary to establish local headquarters in provinces and districts. All state power, military and [word indistinct] leadership has been put at the disposal of the DRA Defense Council under the leadership of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo; the council will coordinate the activity of all state and military departments, party and (?social) organs and youths to defend the gains of the Sawr Revolution.

Comrades, a reliable defense of the revolution depends on the strength and further consolidation of the army. The DRA Armed Forces play a major role in the stabilization of the situation in the country and is the firm fulcrum of the party and the DRA in stopping the enemy conspiracies and defending the sacred gains of the country's workers. The transformation of the army into an educated modern mass army, capable of lofty combat, is one of our major tasks.

Finally comrades, the Central Committee Politburo gives great importance to the social and mass organizations which represent the interests of all strata and patriotic classes of Afghanistan and play a great role in the transformation of the country into a battle camp and the intensification of struggle against the servant bands. Political, social and mass organizations have been established in the country. The formation of the National Fatherland Front and the defense of the people's gains are proud events in the life of our people.

In the present circumstances of the increasing armed actions by counterrevolutionary elements, the mass and social organizations will not be separated from the indefatigable struggle for the defense of the power of the people. Good use will be made of the strong traditions of the peoples and nationalities of our country and the principles of the sacred religion of Islam. Let us expose the masks of those who under the false slogans of the defenders of Islam pull masks on their faces and in action and practice infringe on the will and interest of our toiling people. Let us proudly join with the ulema council and representatives of patriotic spiritual leaders.

The party under the present circumstances believes that the most important task of the social organization is to coordinate tens and hundreds of thousands of toilers for a conscious struggle against the criminal bands and in the patriotic training of youths and the country's citizens. Their work should be defined within the framework of this slogan: All for the defense of revolution and death to the counterrevolution! [applause]

DOST, DANESHJO HOLD TALKS WITH SRV OFFICIAL

LD161746 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] In the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this morning Shah Mohammad Dost, minister of foreign affairs, held discussions in a friendly and cordial atmosphere with Hoang Van Tien, vice foreign minister of Vietnam, about subjects of mutual interest to the two countries. Sakhe Daneshjo, political director general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Vietnamese ambassador in Kabul were also present at these discussions.

According to another report, this afternoon Vietnam's vice foreign minister held additional discussions with the political director general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Tonight, Vietnam's vice foreign minister attended a reception at the Intercontinental Hotel given in his honor by Sakhe Daneshjo. The reception was attended by Dr Mehrabuddin Paktiawal, first deputy of the State Planning Committee; a number of high-ranking civil servants of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the delegation accompanying Vietnam's vice foreign minister, Vietnam's ambassador and members of the Vietnamese Embassy in Kabul.

KARMAL RECEIVES VISITING INDIAN OFFICIAL 11 AUG

LD111638 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 11 Aug 81

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, received this afternoon S. Kumar Singh, secretary in the Indian Foreign Ministry, on a courtesy call. They discussed topics of interest in a cordial atmosphere. Minister of Foreign Affairs Shah Mohammad Dost and Indian Ambassador to Kabul Jaskaran Singh Teja attended the meeting.

According to another report, Shah Mohammad Dost met with S. Kumar Singh this morning at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; they discussed international and regional affairs and topics of mutual interest. These talks, which were held in a cordial atmosphere, were a continuation of their previous talks. The general political director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Indian ambassador to Kabul also took part in these talks.

According to another report, S. Kumar Singh attended a luncheon today which was given in his honor by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the reception hall of that ministry. Dr Mohammad Hasan Sharq, Afghan ambassador in New Delhi, a number of high-ranking officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Indian ambassador in Kabul and a number of embassy staff attended the luncheon.

BRIEFS

CUBAN AMBASSADOR--Manuel Senado Casanval, the Republic of Cuba's ambassador in Kabul, presented his credentials this morning to Babrak Karmal, general secretary of PDPA Central Committee and president of DRA Revolutionary Council, in the headquarters of the Revolutionary Council. Shah Mohammad Dost, DRA minister of foreign affairs, and Mohammad Anwar Farzan, secretary of the Revolutionary Council Presidium, were also present. [Text] [Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Aug 81 LD]

SPOKESMAN COMMENTS ON DISPUTED ISSUES WITH INDIA

BK141345 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1205 GMT 14 Aug 81

[Text] Bangladesh has lodged a strong protest with India for massing an armada of Indian naval ships on the Raimangal River which [word indistinct] part of our territorial waters.

A Foreign Office spokesman said in Dacca today that the Indian armada included four frigates and two landing crafts. The Indian ships had (?aimed) their armament on the Bangladesh boats. The spokesman said Bangladesh also espressed serious concern over this unwanted show of force by India. Referring to the Talpatty issue the spokesman said: We have already urged the Indian Government to withdraw her naval ships from the disputed island. When his attention was drawn to the Indian press reports about the movement of Bangladesh naval ships in the area, the spokesman said: As a matter of fact, Bangladesh ships are well within our territorial waters and have never gone beyond the (Heron) Point which is 40 miles (?off) of the disputed island. He said Bangladesh has offered a special gesture to move her ships further inland if India withdraws her ships from the area. He said we have repeatedly made it clear to India that Bangladesh stands firmly committed to the agreement and understanding reached between the two countries for a peaceful settlement of the issue of South Talpatty Island. Despite this uncalled for provocation, Bangladesh will not be deflected from the course of seeking peaceful and lawful means of finding a fair and just solution of this and other outstanding problems with India.

Referring to the situation caused by the blockade of the Bangladesh enclaves at Dahagram and Angarpota by armed Indians, he said the matter has already been brought to the notice of the Indian Government. He said a flag meeting was held on the issue between the border guards of the two countries. Describing the situation as tense, the spokesman said a full report on the problem is awaited for taking further necessary action. He also said that preparations are underway to provide essential supplies including foodstuffs and medicine to the enclave.

While commenting on the eight-point Middle East peace plan of Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia, he said Bangladesh considers it as a positive step toward the current efforts for finding a just and durable solution to the problems in the area. The plan put forward last week included establishment of an independent Palestinian state and the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territory.

SATTAR RULES OUT POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS

BK150238 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 14 Aug 81

[Text] Acting President Justice Abdus Sattar has categorically said that the date for the presidential elections scheduled for 15 October cannot be shifted further because of Constitutional obligations.

Addressing the Id reunion function of the city unit of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party at the Old Gana Bhavan in Dacca today, the acting president said that the Constitutional provision of 180 days for electing a new president will terminate on 29 November. He said that shifting the election date to the third week of November as demanded by the opposition parties might create a constitutional crisis in case of a death of any presidential candidate. (?Therefore) there is no need for further rescheduling of the election date, he added.

Justice Sattar said that the opposition parties are aware of the Constitutional provisions for the presidential elections and that they are demanding a further shifting of the date with the ulterior motive of creating chaos and indiscipline. The acting president said that the opposition parties have realized that they have little support of the people and so they are preparing to build up movements to impede the democratic process.

JANATA PARTY EXECUTIVE MEETING ENDS 14 AUG

BK141636 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Aug 81

[Text] The 2-day meeting of the National Executive of the Janata Party ended in Hyderabad this evening. In a resolution on the international situation and foreign policy, the executive welcomed resumption of a dialogue with China. It expressed concern over the acquisition of F-16 aircraft and other sophisticated weapons by Pakistan.

ASSAM STRIKE ON FOREIGN NATIONALS ISSUE ENDS

BK151600 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Aug 81

[Text] The 24-hour Assam bundh [strike] called by Assam agitationists to press for an early solution of the foreign nationals issue ended at 0700 this evening. Chief Secretary Ramesh Chandra told the All India Radio Gauhati correspondent that no untoward incident has been reported from any part of the state and the situation remained peaceful.

Meanwhile, train services which were suspended for some time following a bomb blast on the railway track at Malegaon this morning have been restored.

ASSAM BANS STRIKES IN ESSENTIAL SERVICES

BK161643 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] The Assam Government has prohibited strikes in a number of services in the state under the Essential Services Maintenance Act. A notification to this effect has been issued at Dispur. The services in which strikes have been banned include the Assam State Transport Corporation, Inland Water Transport Organization, and distribution services of Assam State Electricity Board. Services connected with production, storage, supply and distribution of gas and water, public health sanitation and all public services and posts under the state government including the secretary of staff of the State Assembly has also come within the perview of the ban.

OPPOSITION PROTESTS ESSENTIAL SERVICES ORDINANCE

BK171130 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Almost all the opposition members walked out of the Lok Sabha today protesting against the promulgation of several ordinances including the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance. The walkout took place when Parliamentary Affairs Minister Bhisma Narain Singh sought the chair's permission to lay on the table the copies of the ordinance. Y.B. Chavan, who had recently resigned from the Congress-U, former Lok Sabha speaker Baliram Bhagat, C.T. Dandapani, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam and Franck Anthony, nominated, did not join the walk out.

SOVIET OFFICIAL SUGGEST INDIAN OCEAN CONFERENCE

BK161638 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] Vice Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Yazulivev has suggested holding of an international conference on the Indian Ocean for working out a wide agreement to maintain it as a zone of peace. He was addressing a meeting in Calcutta today organized to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the India-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATED; HAQ ISSUES MESSAGE

BK140930 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 14 Aug 81

[Excerpt] The nation is celebrating Independence Day today with complete unity and national cohesion. The celebration represents an affirmation of our desire to preserve our independence, to strive for peace, progress and stability, and to bring about a true Islamic order in our country.

President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, in a message on this occasion, urged the nation to keep alive the spirit of the Pakistan movement and to resolve to lead lives according to the tenets of Islam. He said we must move steadfastly along the road toward the ideological goal of the struggle that won us our independence on this auspicious day in 1947.

The president said the prevailing spirit of that glorious struggle should not only be kept alive but passed on from generation to generation. The mood and enthusiasm of 14 August 1947 must be recaptured, revived and fostered as a perpetual source of inspiration and dynamism. This is also the occasion for us to demonstrate once again that we are a people capable of persuing the objective for which Pakistan was founded with discipline, dedication and singleness of purpose. Today, by the grace of God, that objective is within reach of practical achievement. The process of Islamization upon which the country has embarked is transforming it steadily and surely into a Muslim homeland in the true sense.

The president said that the process of transforming society--which in the intervening period was unfortunately lost sight of--into its real objective is not easy. The road to our fundamental destination of an Islamic order is long and arduous. The president said that as long as we keep moving in the right direction with courage and determination, we will, God willing, definitely reach our goal. He said once Islamic values and traditions permeate our society and form the basis of our national institutions, we can look to our future with absolute confidence, because the greatness of a people lies less in the material resources of their country than in the strength of their moral character.

The provincial governors, the Azad Kashmir president and the martial law administrator of the northern areas have also issued messages on the occasion.

The dawning of Independence Day was hailed with a 31-gun salute in the federal capital and 21-gun salutes in provincial capitals.

Political Detainees Released

BK151620 Hong Kong AFP in English 1215 GMT 15 Aug 81

[Text] Islamabad, 15 Aug (AFP)--Military authorities in Pakistan have freed a number of socialist and leftist political prisoners under an amnesty marking yesterday's 34th anniversary of independence, reports said today. The country's government-controlled press, reporting the amnesty, said all political prisoners in Punjap Province had been released.

Freed prisoners included leaders of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), formerly led by ex-Premier Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, executed in April 1979. Several PPP leaders were arrested after last March's hijacking of a Pakistani Boeing. The plane was hijacked to Kabul and Damascus by armed men claiming to be members of "Al-Zulfiqar group" (?headed) by Mr Bhutto's two sons.

Among those now released, according to press reports, were the party's secretary general, Faruq Leghari, Mr Bhutto's one-time defence minister, Lt Gen Tikka Khan, and the provincial chief of PPP and former speaker of the Punjab Assembly, Sheikh Rafiq Ahmed.

The chief of the Pakistan Socialist Party, C.R. Aslam, was also freed, along with fellow socialist leader Abid Hassan Minto and a left-wing poet, Habib Jalib, the reports said. Leaders of right-wing parties were freed last month.

Two weeks ago the military regime freed Begum Nusrat Bhutto, Mr Bhutto's widow, who is heading her late husband's party. Her daughter Benazir remains in jail.

AL-ZULFIQAR SABOTEUR ARRESTED, BOMBS CONFISCATED

GF170613 Karachi JANG in Urdu 14 Aug 81 p 1

[Text] According to a JANG reporter in Nowshera, officials arrested an active member of the Al-Zulfiqar organization on the train from Peshawar to Karachi on 13 August. His plans to commit sabotage were thwarted when police confiscated 12 bombs he was carrying. He was handed over to the special branch police after being arrested.

It has been disclosed that the accused, Masud Iqbal, had arrived in Pakistan after undergoing training as a saboteur in Afghanistan. He had come to commit sabotage.

20 Other Members Arrested

GF151919 Karachi NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 10 Aug 81 p 1

[By Mohammed Yusuf]

[Excerpts] The FIA [Federal Investigation Agency] and another high-level agency have arrested at least 20 members of the Al-Zulfiqar organization. The arrests took place after a private party, but as a result of haste an accomplice of the hijackers, Ilyas Siddiqi. was not arrested. Earlier it had been rumored that he had been arrested while fleeing via Parachinar, but this has not been confirmed. A police source has stated that an active member of the Al-Zulfiqar organization, "Tipu," had close contacts with two police officials.

Police had been tipped earlier that at the above-mentioned private party, friends of the hijackers would be present and plans would be made to create unrest.

Police sources have stated that after 'Id al-Fitr, the arrested youths were again interrogated and the boys, who total 20 and are being detained in various jails in the city, are said to be members of the PSF [Pakistan Students Federation]. One of these boys is a law student and is an employee of a law enforcement body. According to police sources, the police task force has been alerted and is patrolling different parts of the city to keep constant vigil and to crack down on individuals behaving suspiciously. Meanwhile, action is being taken on the reports received and more facts are expected to come to light.

USSR'S DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER TO ARRIVE 24 AUG

BK111157 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 11 Aug 81

[Text] Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Firyubin is arriving in Islamabad on the 24th of this month on a 4-day visit to Pakistan. Radio Pakistan's diplomatic correspondent, quoting informed sources, says that the visit is in the context of bilateral exchange of views between the two countries on the agenda of the UN General Assembly. Last year, Foreign Secretary Riaz Piracha had paid a similar visit to Moscow in September.

Besides other items, the Afghanistan problem, which has been inscribed as the 26th item of the General Assembly's agenda, will come up for discussion during Firyubin's visit to Pakistan.

KHALKHALI CRITICIZES BAHONAR'S PROPOSED CABINET

GF171345 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0445 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Speech by Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali to the Majlis on 17 August--live]

[Excerpts] May God's peace and benediction be upon you. We who criticize this government do not have any grudges or animosity. It is simply expression of beliefs that in our opinion is necessary. If our criticism is accepted, then so much the better; if not, those individuals who have been selected as ministers--since we are agreeable and follow the vote of majority as it is our religious and lawful duty--it is up to us to support the government and the members of the government. (?This enables them) to solve the nation's problems.

A word about the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran since the Western media uses our material. Iran is moving toward victory with a great deal of force and bravery and, under the shadow of the Imam, may his shadow be extended, we will solve all our problems. We are not worried about the Islamic Republic of Iran. Of course, we do not wish a group of xenophiles and those with foreign natures to use arms against this nation. This nation has the ability to give them a firm answer. Those who are abroad are like flies.

General Aryana, during the era of the shah, was accused of theft, stealing, committing adultery and all sorts of other acts. Then he was exiled and now he beats his chest for the monarchy and makes other claims that you know about. He supports the return of the monarchy.

[Interruption by Hasemi-Rafsanjani] The reminder by our friends is correct.

[Khalkhali] Those who intend to take power in their hands and govern should intend to do good (?and avoid evil). It should not be taken by them as any feeling of animosity (?on my side). One of the matters that made us feel good was the remark by His Excellency Mr Raja'i, the president, the night before last on television. It was very constructive. I did not see the program but I read about it. It was very interesting. However, criticism cannot be stopped, especially if it is based on reason. [passage indistinct]

I criticize the economy minister here for all the events and unacceptable happenings in the country. Even though they should come to the courts and explain what happened to the 80 million tomans in Mahabad or the money missing in Kermanshah, those who were killed in Bandar-e 'Abbas and elsewhere... [sentence left unfinished] This matter shows that these gentlemen--such as his excellency the economy minister, who again wants to become a minister--do not have the competence to govern the ministry or the financial institution. We have no quarrel and want no fight. It is our position. We must bring these people and have questions (?answered). What happened?

Mr Rabbani-Shirazi wrote, other gentlemen criticized. The Bandar-e 'Abbas deputy here shouted his head off but all of this went (?unheeded) and no one answered. Now we see that the same gentleman who (?had such shortcomings) yesterday is today offered up by the government, by the prime minister, His Excellency Mr Bahonar, as a minister.

Such negligence and forebearance could be interpreted as treachery. A group of poor God-stricken quake victims had an allocation made for them but did not receive anything. Why not? Why should they not look into the problems of the poor? Do we not want to have the people (?with us)?

With respect to the Interior Ministry, Mr Mahdavi is trusted by all. I do not know if he is present at this session. However, with a great deal of shame, I should like to say that being good cannot be divided. I mean, a person can be good... [sentence left unfinished]

He repeatedly confessed to me: I do not have the competence for this job. He even said that about the Central Committee. Gentlemen, those who confess, let them go to the Council of Guardians or the Supreme Judicial Council. This is his trade. He is a human being with a very kind heart. Anyone who was purged and fired, he comes--the cases are documented and I can offer them--he gives those who were the subject of the people's hatred--even those whom they have released--sensitive positions. For example, the Karaj governor on the confession of Karaj deputies having abused (?this position) in control of construction girders. He does not give them to compentent people.

[Interruption by Hashemi-Rafsanjani] Mr Hanjani, the deputy (?of Karaj), denies this.

[Khalkhali] The fox who is cornered will resort to any trick to escape. [Words indistinct] the person who is drowning reaches for any handhold. He strives. He even resorts to women's clothing.

You did not have foreknowledge. It is through your shortcoming that he escaped and then you [words indistinct]. The shortcoming is yours to have let him escape in the first place. Why do you not control things? If you are not responsible, why do you come to people and want to answer them? It looks as if you have taken some degree of responsibility. Now he escaped. What about his one, the one who went to Muscat? It must be controlled. Tomorrow another will escape and another the day after. [passage indistinct]

Well, a missile-launching vessel weighing 450 tons--bought by the blood of the oppressed people of Iran from France--it has 40 on board and it is coming toward Iran. There is no question that the counterrevolution came on the order of Mitterand and the French Government. And, having taken a tug from a Spanish port, what did they do with it?

The argument is about those whom you had sent to pick up the ship--why did you not check to see that these individuals were 100 percent...[sentence left unfinished]? As Mr Fallahi said: We are at war with the United States. When someone is at war with the United States and wants to take delivery of warships, should they go and sleep there? And then, should we come and listen to the gentlemen call names? Should we listen to the oppposition abroad? They cannot do a damn thing, but this still poses a question. The defense minister of Mr MacMillan in England had a relationship with a call girl. His cabinet had to resign. However, here the gentlemen are sitting happily as if nothing has happened. They do not make a big thing out of an incident. As Mullah Nasr-Aldin [Iranian folk hero] said: The hat is just one color, so you can wear it in a different style every day.

You should be aware and alert. People trust you. They have given you the control of the country. Do you want to satisfy the people with all this [words indistinct] and jokes? People will not be satisfied by such remarks.

I thank Mr 'Asgar-Owladi. He is a useful and decisive person. When he was in the Central Committee, he had a number of usurers arrested and delivered to us. We tried some of them. This person is useful. We should not be unjust and not say the truth about him. He is useful for the country.

Mr Banki--I don't know if he is here or not. He is a good person.

Mr Gonabadi, the minister of housing, even though we have some criticism on the Housing Ministry, is a good man. They published the government plans late and gave them to us, but we said a few things about what the gentlemen announced to be the government's plans. One was the restoration of the qanats [well system] in their agricultural program. This was in the budget. What about the construction of various dams? It is not clear how many dams the gentlemen want to build without the budget having been approved. How are they going to build them?

The contribution of various dams has not been included in this year's national budget. What was included was completion of unfinished projects, such as minab dams, and which had been included here, and I object to this. [sentence as heard]

Another matter is the guarantee of purchase and stabilization of agricultural products. Well, the gentlemen want to fix the price of agricultural products. This is when they announced that hoarders have been purchasing wheat in large quantities in Qom and other cities. Spring shows the nature of the year. This government cannot be decisive. They announced the only one allowed to purchase rice is the government. Right now those who are owed money are active in Gilan. This is causing problems. Saying we want to fix agricultural prices does not solve the problem. They repeatedly announced programs to fix prices, but the prices have gone up by manyfold.

On the matter of correct use of the national fishing industry [shilat], by relying on traditional techniques in order to attract unemployed forces and thus create jobs and strengthen the financial and technical resources of the fishermen while maintaining industrial fishing and so on in order too--I don't know--to increase protein material and such words.. [sentence left unfinished] Our sea, our sea to the north [Caspian] in which you have no control over fishing at the moment--do you want to carry on a plan you have prepared to attract unemployed forces, create jobs, strengthen financial and technical resources of the fishermen? You showed that the same members had no control over the north or south in the past. It is the people who catch the fish.

[Interruption by Hashemi-Rafsanjani] You have 5 minutes left.

[Khalkhali] The gentlemen had no idea when they put in their plans their statement "The assembly industry's required if the nation is to achieve self-sufficiency." That is wrong. This should be transformation of the assembly industry to self-sufficiency. You now want to make the country self-sufficient and not just assemble any more. You closed so many factories. Those that have fallen in the hands of the Foundation for the Oppressed--I heard, and the investigation should be carried out later--that 70 billion tomans is the amount of losses by the Foundation for the Oppressed. Why do you not close this foundation? What is the point of being in debt? Were they not in debt before? So many factories closed and now you want to start them all up and reach the level of transforming the assembly line into a mother factory?

As the proverb says: "Learn to walk before you run." Start the factories now and later we will think of what to do.

About the minister of education and training, the gentleman has a letter which should be read. He will answer that the letter was written in circumstances when Messrs Taheri and Khademi told me [as heard].

I followed up on this but they said there was nothing of the kind. If it is true, the gentlemen will write and we shall accept.

He says--and other gentlemen say the same thing--that they were in jail and under torture. The date of the letter bears witness that it was written at the height of the Iranian struggle when the doors to all jails were being broken down and people were coming out in throngs. What fear, what terror? And to say it in such terms as "we are faithful to the monarchy." He repeatedly stressed that. I do not talk about Mr Parvaresh's character. A soft person is not suitable for the job. He cannot control the Ministry of Education and Training with its 9 million personnel. Otherwise, Mr Parvaresh can stand in front of us and we will pray behind him.

I had other matters written here to talk about. (?I wanted to) talk about the Ministry of Employment. There are so many unemployed in this country and these gentlemen have not taken any positive steps. There is the matter of raising the (?price of) milk, brought up by the Agricultural Ministry, and also animal husbandry. Fix the milk companies you have whose output has declined first and then we will have time for you to start new factories. The Sarcheshmeh copper smelter employees are out of work.

With all these shortcomings we see in these people, I beg Mr Bahonar to select more experienced and more suitable individuals so that there will not be any further problems and the country can go on its way. I said that if the government asks for votes, we will support it with all our being and will have no legal objections. These were things we had to [illegible] it is not out of any grudge or animosity toward anyone. We said them whether you want to accept them or not. The Majlis will vote on it and we have nothing to say.

MAJLIS APPROVES 21 CABINET APPOINTEES, REJECTS 1

LD172036 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Excerpts] Today's open session of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, after a 1-hour recess, resumed deliberations under the chairmanship of Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani this afternoon. A Central News Unit correspondent reports that at this session the deputies decided that the vote of confidence on the government of Dr Javad Bahonar should be open, on ballot papers and separately for each minister. The results of the balloting were read out as follows:

[Begin recording] [First unidentified voice] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Here is the outcome of the voting: Total number participating and present in the Majlis: 231 [this and all subsequent numbers as heard]; they were free to vote or not vote. Seventeen members could not vote because their credentials have not yet been approved.

[Second unidentified voice] I should note here that of those gentlemen whose credentials have not been endorsed, some 17 of them have signed a letter saying we will vote for Dr Bahonar's cabinet as presented. In other words, those 17 members who were not entitled to vote have cast their [word indistinct] vote. Please go ahead.

[First unidentified voice] Nearly 181 or 182 were entitled to vote. I now read out the result of the voting on that basis:

1. Mr 'Ali Asghar Parvaresh: 137 votes in favor, 14 votes against and 12 abstentions;
2. Dr Mohammad Taqi Banki: 156 votes in favor, 1 vote against and 10 abstentions;
3. Mr Mohammad Ansari: 132 votes in favor, 10 votes against and 13 abstentions;
4. Col Seyyed Musa Namju: 163 votes in favor, 1 vote against and 3 abstentions;
5. Mr Hoseyn Musavian: 123 votes in favor, 3 votes against and 30 abstentions;
6. Mr Habibollah 'Asgar-Owladi: 154 votes in favor, 6 votes against, and 9 abstentions;
7. Engineer Mir-Hoseyn Musavi: 154 votes in favor, 6 votes against and 12 abstentions;
8. Engineer Behzad Nabavi: 145 votes in favor, 6 votes against and 11 abstentions;
9. Dr Hoseyn Namazi: 148 votes in favor, 6 votes against and 11 abstentions;
10. Dr Hadi Manafi: 135 votes in favor, 9 votes against and 25 abstentions;
11. Dr Mohammad 'Ali Najafi: 133 votes in favor, 11 votes against and 29 abstentions;
12. Mr Mahdavi-Kani: 133 votes in favor, 17 votes against and 16 abstentions;
13. Engineer Morteza Nabavi: 157 votes in favor, 2 votes against and 6 abstentions;
14. Engineer Seyyed Hoseyn Tajgardan: 70 votes in favor, 33 votes against and 52 abstentions;
15. Engineer Mohammad Gharavi: 155 votes in favor, 1 vote against and 11 abstentions;
16. 'Abol Majid Ma'adikhah: 119 votes in favor, 20 votes against and 19 abstentions;
17. Dr Mahmud Rohani: 156 votes in favor, 1 vote against and 7 abstentions;
18. Dr Hasan Ghafuri: 142 votes in favor, 8 votes against and 11 abstentions;
19. Engineer Mostafa Hashemi: 148 votes in favor, 2 votes against and 15 abstentions;
20. Mr Mohammad Mir-Mohammad-Sadeqi: 120 votes in favor, 18 votes against and 30 abstentions;
21. Mr Mohammad Salamati; 125 votes in favor, 14 votes against and 25 abstentions;
22. Engineer Mohammad Shahab-Gonabadi: 137 votes in favor, 12 votes against and 20 abstentions.

[Second unidentified voice] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The outcome of the voting shows that the Islamic Consultative Assembly has voted in favor of the cabinet of Dr Bahonar with an absolute majority. With the exception of Engineer Tajgardan, the rest of the ministers, 21 in all, have been approved with an absolute majority. [end recording]

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON GUNBOAT HIJACKING

LD172007 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Interview with Minister of Foreign Affairs Mir-Hoseyn Musavi--recorded; date not given]

[Text] [Question] Would you kindly brief us on the steps taken by the Foreign Ministry to recover the Iranian gunboat, hijacked in Spanish waters?

[Answer] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. From the beginning it was clear to us there was a vast conspiracy behind this hijacking. Through the documents and reports received from our diplomatic missions and from other countries, we realized that the incident was directly an American plot, with CIA involvement.

While pursuing the issue, our representatives in Spain got in touch with the Spanish authorities--because the boat was hijacked while still in Spanish waters--and asked them to take legal steps, for the obvious reason that the incident also affected the security of Spanish waters. The incident should naturally be regarded as piracy endangering the world's sea routes. The Spanish Government cooperated with us to some extent, but we expected far more from them. It is natural to assume that responsibility for the hijacking rests with the Spanish Government, and they must pursue the issue vigorously. We immediately sent one of our experts to Spain. Following negotiations with the fraternal Algerian Government, we arranged for the transfer of the other two boats and their return to Iran by secure means. We have also taken steps to prevent such incidents in the future. Of course, such plots against our revolution by the United States is natural. It is interesting for the nation to note that none of the news agencies used the statement issued by the Foreign Ministry concerning this event, in which the hand of the United States was exposed. The reason behind this is obvious, because to reveal the fact that the CIA wad directly involved in the incident could endanger the United States. It could affect the conscience and thoughts of the world's masses about the Iranian revolution. The world's masses would have learned who is behind all these events.

[Question] According to the latest report [words indistinct]?

[Answer] [Word indistinct] it is obvious that the boat was hijacked with the cooperation of the Moroccan Government. The Government of Morocco has direct responsibility for this piracy and must accept the consequences. The Moroccans themselves announced that the boat was not in Morocco, but we know and have lots of proof; and many people saw the boat in Tangiers, and the sultan [as heard] of Morocco must know, and if he wishes to avoid involving himself in the consequences of this issue, he had better hand over the boat to us.

[Question] As you yourself said, the other two boats are in Algerian waters. Has it been ascertained [words indistinct]?

[Answer] This [words indistinct] of our navy, we have taken steps and will take every step to guarantee the safe delivery of these boats to Iranian waters. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is in contact with the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in this connection.

[question indistinct]

[Answer] [Words indistinct] yet if we consider the roots of these incidents, we come to realize that our revolution [words indistinct] and has endangered American interests all over the world.

It is natural for the United States to resort to such actions to weaken our revolution and our fighting forces inside the country, in order to give the world a distorted picture of our society and thus prepare the ground for the implementation of future conspiracies in this country. For the same reason, we consider the incidents taking place here and there to be linked to the explosions taking place in Tehran and other cities, the assassinations and the events and incidents taking place in France. These events and incidents are all related and our nation should be aware of this fact.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs can do two things. The first is revelation at the world level, through research, of these interlinked circles in order to give the world's oppressed a clear picture of the whole issue. In this connection, our missions abroad have become active. They communicate to the host governments and other foreign diplomatic missions in the host country the content of Foreign Ministry statements.

The next step is to make the results of our fact-finding research available to other responsible authorities in Iran, so that they can use the information provided against the background of their own investigations in connection with internal conspiracies.

As you know, our revolution and our people are the most oppressed. At the same time, simply because of the confidence this nation has, this nation is the most resisting nation. If we could communicate this very fact to the world, if we could attract the support of the masses of the friendly nations, then in the long run we would be able to reduce (?such risks) against our country. I should stress this fact; if we could inform the masses in the Muslim nations about these details, there is no doubt that for any blow they dealt against us they would deal many blows against imperialism, Zionism and other conspiracies. These are among the things we have done.

PARIS REPORTS DISCOVERY OF HIJACKED GUNBOAT

LD171636 Paris Domestic Service in French 1600 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] The Iranian missile-launching patrol boat seized last Thursday by an anti-Khomeyni commando off the coast of Spain has been found. The patrol boat, the Tabarzin, was refuelled, apparently under threat, in the port of Casablanca. It was then immediately escorted out of Moroccan territorial waters. It is said in Rabat that the patrol boat has been anchored a long way from the Moroccan coast for nearly 48 hours.

TEHRAN: AS-SADAT OFFER ASYLUM, AID TO BANI-SADR

LD151142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Aug 81

[Text] The Central News Unit, quoting the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, reports that Egyptian ruler As-Sadat, who sent special security officials to Paris, has offered Bani-Sadr, the fugitive deposed president of Iran, political asylum and any other collaboration. According to reliable sources in Egypt, a number of Eygptian security officials contacted the fugitive deposed Bani-Sadr and said that the Egyptian regime is prepared to grant him political asylum. The Egyptian security officials also expressed the As-Sadat regime's readiness for any collaboration.

Report on Offer Denied

NC 1355 Paris AFP in English 1305 GMT 15 Aug 81

[Excerpts] Tehran, 15 Aug (AFP)--President Anwar as-Sadat of Egypt, who sheltered the ousted shah of Iran for several months before his death, has now offered political asylum to Iran's deposed President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, according to the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

Quoting a ministry statement, the Iranian news agency PARS said: "As-Sadat sent members of his security service to Paris to say that Egypt was prepared to grant political asylum to the fugitive, Bani-Sadr, and that his regime was willing to collaborate with him in any way."

Later, in Paris, a spokesman for Mr Bani-Sadr categorically denied the Tehran report.

"There has been no contact between the Egyptian authorities and Mr Bani-Sadr," the spokesman said, adding that the former president would in any event turn down such a proposal.

LE MATIN VIEWS AMINI, MADANI OPPOSITION FRONT

PM171419 Paris LE MATIN in French 13 Aug 81 p 7

[Marie-Claude Descamps report: "The Calculations of the Iranian Opposition"]

[Text] [Descamps] There are those who want nothing to do with Bakhtiar: He does not have enough "political strength" and has too many "means" (notably his propaganda radio station installed in Iraq); there are those who reject an alliance with the Mojahedin because "an alliance with them means an alliance with Moscow." Finally there are all those who, in this dark jungle of conflicitng interests formed by the "community" of Iranian opposition ists living abroad, see no other way out than a "center" government and the arbitration of the armed forces. This solution might win support from many secular, nationalist and even moderate religious opposition factions and might be centered on two prominent figures: 'Ali Amini, a former prime minister but a "lukewarm monarchist," and Adm Ahmad Madani, a a staunch republican who has considerable support in the armed forces. Both explained their views without illusions but with some hope.

First, 'Ali Amini, a politician who was minister several times (especially under Mossadeq). This former minister, hated by the shah, is 73 years old and is used to the fact that his name resurfaces every time Iran is on the brink of disaster. The Americans are said to have thought of him, in desperation, to "curb" the revolution's initial convulsions. Now that his country is on the verge of civil war, he is trying to back a united resistance front from abroad. His friends say of him: "He is the last statesman Iran still has." Amini, for his part, prefers the more realistic description of a "professional," because he thinks this is what his country lacks most. "All the brains, the cadres and so forth, all those who are capable of rebuilding Iran are living abroad; it is this middle class of technicians, doctors, this infrastructure which must be formed and united again.... Just look at who is left: Bazargan? He is an honest man, a good university lecturer but a statesman [as published]. What about Bani-Sadr? He is a defeated man who miscalculated his action and dropped the clerics with whom he had sided.... What about the Mojahedin? They may number a bare 10,000; if Rajavi, their leaders, had really been in a position of strength, he would never have come to France...."

Amini has no miracle solution and is convinced of his own impotence and that of others in face of a "Kampuchean-style" situation which necessitates unnatural alliances to struggle against Khomeyni, the common enemy: "In any case we must not deceive ourselves. If we return to Iran," he conceded, "it will be in the armed forces' trucks."

"The armed forces will be the arbiter, this is the only way out at present, the only way of combating the Islamic militia. Moreover, at present the armed forces have secrets which are better left unknown."

[Question] Is there any other solution?

[Answer] "No other all-embracing solution, but each leading oppositionist, each group can make its contribution. After all, Bakhtiar has a few officers in Iran who carry out sabotage for him; the moderate clerics like Shari'atmadari in Qom, or Ayatollah Qomi in Mashhad can use the infrastructure of their mosques--were they not already doing that during the revolution?--to show that Islam is not necessarily what the orthodox Muslims are advocating. There are also the former members of the National Front who have been completely overtaken by events but who must not be forgotten because nationalism extends far beyond the framework of one party. Nothing must be neglected, especially the minorities like the Kurds who can, for instance, be promised administrative autonomy."

Beheshti and the Communists

[Question] What about Bani-Sadr?

[Answer] "Bani-Sadr has a role to play too; precisely because he collaborated with the regime, he is in the best position to explain its weaknesses."

[Question] But are there not "liaisons dangereuses" in this desire for union?

[Answer] "Yes, especially with the leftwing parties. For instance, an alliance with the Tudeh is out of the question. From the start the communists have been maneuvering to take over the Iranian Government from within: They have fully infiltrated the Mojahedin-e Khalq; Rajavi must be made to understand that. The Mojahedin know how to fight but they are not thinking people, they are easily manipulated."

[Question] Would 'Ali Amini fear the communists more than the orthodox clerics?

[Answer] "In fact, paradoxical though it may seem, I sometimes think it is a pity Beheshti was killed because he was at least an intelligent man who was able to use the Tudeh but who was maneuvering very skillfully to eliminate the communists. He at least knew how to organize himself and manage affairs; he was planning to succeed Khomeyni. Today, however, if Khomeyni dies--and it is nonetheless to be hoped that the good Lord will take him as quickly as possible--unless we act fairly quickly the communists will fill the vacuum; they are only waiting for that...."

[Question] Adm. Ahmad Madani, who was Bazargan's defense minister before running against Bani-Sadr in the presidential election, and who finally resigned from his post as deputy for Kerman, analyzes the situation differently but the conclusion is the same: The end justifies the means.

The admiral, a convinced republican and a practicing Muslim (his father was an ayatollah in Kerman), prefers "ideological alliances" to "tactical alliances" but is prepared to form an alliance with anybody prepared to join in the "center."

[Answer] This is precisely a tactical choice: "because, contrary to what everybody says, the Khomeyni regime is not very weak and it was very successful in exploiting the periods of mass hysteria caused by the shah's repression. The orthodox Muslims have taken over the regime to their benefit. They realized the Iranian people are deeply religious and they have channeled this religious hysteria in such a way as to make it a real structure for their regime. Their second advantage is money: With what do people imagine they maintain the Islamic militia, the pasdaran and the others?

"If you add to that the institution of the Islamic revolution courts, it is clear that society has been totally infiltrated. In the final analysis, it is clear they have established their surface networks very well but have no real popular support. Such an edifice cannot last long, the rot has already set in...."

[Question] Should you wait until the regime collapses by itself?

[Answer] Certainly not. "It is impossible to rely on the population alone; this regime can only be overthrown by sections both inside and outside the country."

[Question] The admiral, who maintains good contacts with a section of the armed forces, does not rule out the possibility of their playing a decisive role but he prefers not to disclose his plans, explaining: "The example of Bani-Sadr's return is not encouraging: He spoke of complicity within the armed forces and said that 200 officers have been arrested. Moreover, if Bani-Sadr really had support from 65 percent of the armed forces, as he claims, why did he leave?" Could it be because of the armed forces' impotence? The former president described them as having been completely dismantled, after all.

[Answer] "No," Admiral Madani replied, discreetly and emphatically, "I can safely say that the Iranian Armed Forces still exist as such.... That will become clear."

LE MONDE INTERVIEWS MOJAHEDIN'S RAJAVI ON PLANS

PM171508 Paris LE MONDE in French 16-17 Aug 81 p 2

[Jean Gueyras Interview with Mojahedin-e Khalq leader Mas'ud Rajavi in Auvers-sur-Oise: "The End of the Bloody Dictatorship is N'gh"--date not given]

[Text] Less than 48 hours after the second group of French nationals had returned from Iran, the strict provisions which the French authorities had taken Sunday, 2 August, to prevent any contact between the press and the Iranian leaders who recently fled to Paris vanished as if by magic. The policemen who just a few days ago were ensuring that no journalist contacted Mr Bani-Sadr or Mas'ud Rajavi are merely protecting the foreign guests who are living in a small house in Auvers-sur-Oise.

"The situation has now been normalized," Mojahedin-e Khalq leader Mas'ud Rajavi told us. "We can now start work. I have not come to stay in France. I want to return to my country as soon as possible after attaining the objectives of my visit to Paris."

[Question] What are those objectives?

[Answer] First to inform the whole world of the extent and size of the resistance to the bloody and savage dictatorship which prevails in Iran, to denounce Khomeyni's lies--things which we found it difficult to do when we were living in hiding. Our trip was also necessary to guarantee the safety of President Bani-Sadr and myself. That does not mean our position in Iran is weak but we did not want to take any risks with our safety.

[Question] Do you not fear your absence from the country at this particularly critical time might help to weaken your influence in Iran?

[Answer] Only those who are unaware of the real state of the Iranian situation could have such apprehensions. We have lost almost 400 martyrs, executed by Khomeyni's executioners in the past few weeks. The very scale of the losses which we have suffered for the revolution indicates we have deep roots among the population.

[Question] What progress have you made on forming the national resistance council?

[Answer] We have not been able to do much so far, owing to the uncertainty of our status in France. But we now plan to work twice as quickly to set up a body which really represents the resistance. All those who accept our principles of freedom and independence can join it, provided that they have not collaborated with the shah or Khomeyni.

[Question] Does that mean that you rule out President Bani-Sadr who was head of the Islamic state for more than 18 months?

[Answer] I do not think that you are being fair. I do not want to pose as Mr Bani-Sadr's advocate. Nor do I want to defend his whole political line and the actions he has taken so far. But we have united on one specific point--that of democracy and rejection of dictatorship. If he had given in to Khomeyni's tyranny, Mr Bani-Sadr would still be president of the republic. We preferred to choose the path of honor and difficult living conditions in the homes of the Mojahedin and in exile.

[Question] You exclude from your front prominent people such as former Prime Ministers 'Ali Amini and Shapur Bakhtiar. Nonetheless they have been saying for more than 1 year what you are now starting to say.

[Answer] They belong to the past. They are finished men. We do not want to collaborate with those who have already failed. Moreover, it is not enough to be against Khomeyni to belong to our front. We must also know why our possible allies are opposed to him and what their options are.

[Question] Are you in favor of the Islamic Republic?

[Answer] We are in favor of a democratic Islamic regime different from Khomeyni's regime, which is essentially reactionary and anti-Islamic. We are not condemning Khomeyni in order to favor the monarchists; quite the reverse. Condemnation of Khomeyni is entirely consistent with our condemnation of the shah. One of the shah's most frightful legacies is Khomeyni himself. I repeat that we will not solve our problems by a return to the past. What we want is the creation of an independent, nonaligned, free, democratic and truly Islamic Iran.

A Reactionary Regime

[Question] So you think that the present Tehran regime is aligned? With whom?

[Answer] I would say that it is on the path to alignment and dependency. To be sure of this you just have to stress the commercial ties it maintains with Israel for arms purchases, the repression of progressive forces and the way in which the seizure of the American hostages was staged. On the stage therewere mutual insults, but behind the curtain they were shaking hands.

[Question] In other words you accuse the present regime of being pro-American!

[Answer] I am saying that Khomeyni's regime is a reactionary regime which is preparing the ground for the return of the exploiters, and hence of the United States and all those whose ambition it is to plunder Iran.

[Question] Do you admit that it is Khomeyni who has eliminated any American influence in Iran?

[Answer] That is wrong, it is not him. Heonly acted under the influence of the revolutionary forces. He did that solely to steal a march on us. But the content of his regime is still reactionary nonetheless. The proof of this is that the counterrevolutionaries are now beginning to surface again in Iran. Everything is ready for the return of imperialism and alignment.

[Question] The shah accused you of being Islamic Marxists?

[Answer] Not just the shah, but Khomeyni too. Indeed, in their view all those who are not servile reactionaries are Marxists. We are Muslims, and our philosophical ideas are fundamentally different from Marxist theories.

[Question] At a practical level, what is the nature of your activities in Iran?

[Answer] Our essential objective is resistance to a regime which understands no other language than that of force.

[Question] You are accused of being behind the terrorism.

[Answer] We condemn terrorism. In our view terrorism is the action of a small group separate from the people which wishes t assert its viewpoints by attacking individuals. We consider that no attack on individuals can bring social changes and the objectives for which we are struggling. In our view, terrorism bears the name of Khomeyni: a bloody executioner who claims to be God on earth. Who is behind the terrorism: the man who has suppressed all our freedoms, or us? For our part, we call our action "resistance." If you know a different way of resisting Khomeyni, tell us and we will be grateful to you for it. Our resistance never hits the innocent. We strongly condemn those who, to discredit the revolutionaries, place bombs in automobiles and public places.

[Question] You have never condemned nor expressed approval of the bombing of the Islamic Republican Party [IRP] headquarters. Nonetheless, it was a typical act of terrorism.

[Answer] The IRP is nicknamed the "thugs' party" in Iran. We are in possession of many documents proving that that party is the cause of the repression and the mass killings. It is very unpopular and hated by the population.

[Question] Did you or did you not blow up the IRP headquarters?

[Answer] I have still not received any reports from my friends on this affair. But I can tell you that the resistance in Iran is completely legitimate.

[Question] Do you not think that an act of "resistance" like blowing up the IRP headquarters strengthens that party's most reactionary elements who are advocating stepping up the repression?

[Answer] The only thing I can say on this subject is that the IRP's end is nigh. The fact that the repression has been stepped up proves that. Don't forget that, toward the end of the shah's regime, we witnessed a similar stepping up in repression. History seems to be repeating itself.

MINISTRY NAMES MUNICH CONSULATE ATTACKERS

LD161706 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Announcement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran--date not given]

[Text] The organization of fighters for the cause of Islam has issued a statement announcing the names of a group of American Maoists, monarchists, and supporters of Shapur Bakhtiar or the mercenaries of the so-called National Front who had taken part in an abortive attack on the Consulate General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Munich on the day of Iran's presidential elections.

Shahin Fatiyanpur-Gandrizi, supporter of Shapur Bakhtiar.
Mohammad Reza Sobhdam, Shiraz birth certificate No 903, born in 1946, fugitive monarchist. He formerly studied in Munich but is presently residing in one of Germany's western cities. He had come to Munich to participate in the attack on the Consulate General of the Islamic Republic of Iran, launched by Maoists, monarchists and supporters of Shapur Bakhtiar.
Mohammad Hasan Purtaqi-Azar, birth certificate No 119, resident of Tabriz.
Homayun Mahmanesh, son of 'Ali, Tehran birth certificate No 2799, born in 1946, fugitive Maoist.
Mahdi Mortazavi, Shiraz birth certificate No 630, born in 1946, monarchist.
Mahmud Mo'tamedi, son of Hoseyn, Esfahan birth certificate No 24, born in 1946, fugitive Maoist.
Mohammad Faruq Rokni, birth certificate No 7, born in 1949, monarchist.
Khosrow Samaimi, Kazerun birth certificate No 457, born in 1952, supporter of Shapur Bakhtiar.
Mohammad 'Alizadeh, son of Mas'ud, passport No 2082483, fugitive Maoist.
Ahmad Savabi, birth certificate No 1072, born in Sabzevar in 1956, Maoist.
Hasan Mansuri, son of Nur Mohammad, birth certificate No 235, born in 1956, Maoist.
Mahmud Jazayeri, son of Muroddin, Abadan birth certificate No 4315, born in 1955, passport No 040857, monarchist.
Amir Hasan Vafa, son of Abolfath, Tehran birth certificate No 720, Maoist.
Ro'ya Hamdi-Rad, Tehran birth certificate No 1478, born in 1958, supporter of Shapur Bakhtiar.
Akbar Dehqani, Kazerun birth certificate No 1, born in 1955, Maoist.
Seyyed 'Ali Mohammadnezhad-Hashemi, Maoist.
Maryam Salemi, daughter of Sa'id, Tehran birth certificate No 1720, born in 1957, passport No 2075833 issued on 26 September 1977, monarchist.

It should be recalled that the mercenaries of America and Zionism, who with the complete support of the German police had attacked the Consulate General of the Islamic Republic of Iran, have distributed a piece of paper in which they have severely criticized the stance of the committed and million-strong masses and that of the Islamic revolution under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni against America and its internal agents, the so-called National Front, the American minigroup of Muslim people, the liberals and Bani-Sadr. The aforesaid has been published jointly by the Maoists, monarchists and supporters of Shapur Bakhtiar.

OPPOSITION, ARRESTS, EXECUTIONS CONTINUE

Guards Attacked in Shiraz

GF161831 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] A number of our brother guards were attacked by the dastardly puppets of the imperialist puppet show this morning. Fortunately, the operations of these sold-out individuals were fruitless and our brother guards escaped from this treacherous plot with their lives.

The Public Relations Office of the Shiraz Islamic Revolution Guard Corps announced in a communique that at 0620 this morning five beastly individuals, who had hidden their ugly faces under masks, machinegunned the vehicle carrying the self-sacrificing brother guards in Shiraz's Hang Roundabout with their Soviet and American bullets.

The dastardly attack of these guardians of the material and lustful gains of international Zionism and imperialism was fortunately nipped in the bud. The attackers, who were in a yellow Renault and on a blue Suzuki motorcycle and who used G-3 and Uzi weponas, slightly wounded two of our brother guards. Those treacherous to Islam and Iran escaped.

The communique stresses that such games and childlike acts by agents of Rajavi and Bani-Sadr and their world-devouring masters will not stop the export of our immense Islamic revolution and, as our great leader has said, today Iran, regardless of the propaganda machine of the United States and Zionism and of those slapped by the revolution, is moving toward its final construction.

The nation, the government, the Majlis, the army and other Armed Forces of Iran stand against any Satanic force through Islamic unity and will do to the remainder of the garbage what they did to the Satanic forces of the Shah and their masters.

Guards Seize Literature

LD161946 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the Ramhormoz Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has announced: Yesterday afternoon a number of suspicious houses were raided. Some statements and the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] newspapers, pipes for smoking opium, burned opium, indecent books, gambling games, a large number of indecent cassettes and recorded speeches made of the hypocrites organization's leaders, paints, a number of first aid books for the treatment of injuries in street clashes published by the hypocrites organization and a large number of code books were seized.

Seven members of the hypocrites organization were arrested in this connection; one is a girl.

The Ramhormoz revolution guards have asked the city's inhabitants to continue with their efforts to expose hypocrite hideouts.

Executions in Bandar-e 'Abbas

LD161732 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] By order of the Islamic Revolution Court of Bandar-e 'Abbas, two main and active members of the minigroups who have waged war on God have been sentenced to death as follows:

'Ali Reza Qasemian, son of Mohammad, member of the central cadre of the 19 Bahman Movement, Ashraf Dehqan branch, member of the central guerrilla cadre of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq, one of the founders of the Feda'i Razmandegan group and one of the members of the central cadres of the Siahkal group, Bandar-e 'Abbas branch, has been convicted of leading and organizing armed centers aimed at struggling against the Islamic Republican order, four instances of armed robbery in Bandar-e 'Abbas amounting to 15 million rials, planning an armed robbery from two other banks amounting to 10 million rials, buying and selling arms, shooting firearms and wounding a policeman guarding the vehicle carrying the bank's money and two instances of stealing car licenses.

'Abolmajid 'Abdol Mohammad Nazari, son of Hoseyn, leader of the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] in Bandar-e Lengeh and the organization's candidate for the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

The sentence passed on them has been carried out.

Mojahedin Supporters Arrested

LD162020 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] According to PARS, two counterrevolutionaries and supporters of the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq], who were intending to launch attacks on shops in Shahr-e Ara [in west Tehran] with Molotov cocktails, have been arrested, due to the vigilance of the district's mobilization forces and the cooperation of the people.

During body searches, the names and addresses of 20 revolution guards and other forces loyal to the imam were discovered.

Villages Cleared

LD162006 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] The Central News Unit, quoting the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps spokesman, reported today: Yesterday the valiant Islamic revolution combatants, in the course of a series of successful operations, cleared the villages of Tazehabad, Ahmadabad, Durud, Gergeli, Mahmudabad and [words indistinct] under the jurisdiction of Marivan's Sarvabad of U.S. armed elements. In the course of fierce clashes between the revolution guards, Kurdish Muslim peshmerga and the counterrevolutionary elements, 42 of the counter-revolutionaries were killed.

Our forces sustained one casualty in these operations. The number of injuries inflicted on the counterrevolutionary elements is not known.

Sabzevar Official Wounded

LD161926 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] According to PARS, Hojjat ol-Eslam Akhlaqi, the supervisor of the Islamic Revolution Committee of Sabzevar, while on his way to work this morning, was the target of an assassination attempt by two motorcyclists. He was wounded in the left shoulder.

After preliminary treatment, he was transferred to one of Mashhad's hospitals; his condition is satisfactory.

8 Arrested in Borujerd

LD161942 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] According to a PARS report, during the last 2 days eight active members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization and the minority Feda'iyan-e Khalq were arrested by Borujerd's revolution guards on charges of street fighting and organizing four member teams to fight against the regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Those arrested were handed over to the city's Islamic Revolution Court.

Borujerd's revolution guards also announced that at 2230 last night an explosive device and a Molotov cocktail planted by the American minigroups beside a Borujerd Governorate vehicle were discovered through the vigilance of the deputy governor and defused by police experts.

Mojahedin Arrested

LD161716 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] PARS reports that the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Langerud has succeeded in uncovering a communal home belonging to the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] in the village of Kia Telayeh [coming under the administrative jurisdiction] of this city and in arresting two of their military branch members, Firuz Rahiman and Reza Mahvan, and two girls.

Mojahedin Captured in Gorgan

LD161310 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that following an assassination attempt on the life of Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Kazem Nur-Mofidi, the Friday imam of Gorgan, which resulted in the martyrdom of two Islamic guardsmen, two communal houses and some documents, publications and leaflets related to the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] were discovered and seized by Gorgan revolution guards last Tuesday and 29 people were arrested. One revolver and 21 rounds of ammunition were also seized during the arrest of one of these people.

23 'Hypocrites' Executed

LD171128 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Excerpt] According to a verdict issued by the Islamic Revolution Court of Tehran, 23 extremely active members and elements of the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] were sentenced to death. The sentences were carried out at Evin Prison. The executed persons, members of the organization's military and central cadres, were convicted of crimes of terror, sabotage, explosion, attacking our brother guardsmen and members of committees, participating in terrorist and fascist activities on 20 June 1981, inflicting bodily harm and injury, killing Muslim people and waging armed uprising against the Islamic Republic of Iran. They were found guilty of waging war against God and His prophet and of corruption.

Martyrs Foundation Attacked

LD171400 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the Public Relations Office of the Martyrs Foundation headquarters issued a statement today saying that at approximately 2010 yesterday the hypocrites' organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] entered 28 June Square from Karmkhan-e Zand Avenue in a Mercedes Benz and carried out an armed attack on the Martyrs Foundation headquarters. The brother guards stationed there returned their fire and the assailants immediately fled the scene. This is a continuation of their subversion and dastardly assassinations directed against the Islamic revolution and the martyr-nurturing nation of Iran, in conformity with Eastern and Western superpowers, especially world-devouring America.

Also, at 0115 today assailants attacked the foundation headquarters from two sides, but because of the brother guards' reaction they fled the scene of the clash.

The statement says in conclusion that none of the brother guards was injured during this armed attack.

2 Executed in Fasa

GF171617 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Two corrupt on earth have been executed in Fasa. According to a report by the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps in Fasa, the two, Ahmad (Timnaj), son of Hoseyn, and Shahram Raja'i, son of Qanbar, were Larestan residents who participated in the explosion at the house of the Lar governor. The two were judged guilty of waging war against God, [word indistinct] and corruption on earth on the order of the Central Islamic Revolution Court. They were executed by firing squad last night.

We would like to remind you that to date a number of communal houses have been discovered in Fasa and a group of Mojahedin-e Khalq and professional assassins has been arrested there.

MUSAVI COMMENTS ON FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES

GF180815 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Hoseyn Musavi has said that our policy of "neither Western nor Eastern" is the basis of Iran's foreign policy. In a press conference yesterday, he added: Iran will not tilt toward the East or the West in its dealings with countries. However, this does not mean we intend to sever contacts with the world. Iran will have wide-scale relations with other nations in order to convey the message of the Iranian revolution while maintaining the principle of no bartering.

Referring to the liberation of Jerusalem, which is one of the foremost objectives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the foreign minister said: Iran is working toward the liberation of Jerusalem and is proposing the formation of a unified Islamic front to struggle against Zionism and imperialism. However, this does not mean we will halt Iran's aid to those who are struggling against the Zionist entity, because Iran--with its offensive and irreconcilable stand against imperialism--is offering enormous aid to those who are struggling to liberate Palestine. If a nonrevolutionary government existed in Iran--which would be allied with the West and bargaining--it would deal violent blows to these strugglers.

The foreign minister added: Iran is offering very valuable aid to the Palestine liberation front. It has frequently expressed its readiness to be present on the front against the Zionist entity. More resources will be available after the war so that Iran could double this assistance.

On Iran's policy toward Europe, he said: We do not separate Western Europe's common goals from those of the United States, because they are linked by common strategic interests. Contradictions will probably appear in some minor areas, but this situation is not confined just to Western Europe and the United States. It occurs in other countries throughout the world.

FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES PLO REPRESENTATIVE

GF161902 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] Hoseyn Musavi, the foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has received Salah (Az-Zawawi), the Palestinian ambassador [as heard] to Tehran. The two sides discussed the firm bilateral relations between the Islamic revolution of Iran and the Palestinian revolution and the means of strengthening these ties. Musavi stressed the firm faith of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the liberation of Palestine and its holy places and its support for the Palestinian combatants under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Musavi thanked the Palestinian ambassador for his congratulations on his assumption of the post of foreign minister and stressed that he would do everything possible to better the two revolutions and all Muslims. He also emphasized that all the Iranian Muslim people look forward to the day when they will participate in the liberation of holy Jerusalem and all the occupied territories.

This is the second meeting the Palestinian ambassador has held with senior officials of the Islamic revolution in a week.

PLO ENVOY PRAISES MUSAVI STATEMENT ON PALESTINE

GF181018 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] Brother Salah az-Zawawi, Palestinian ambassador [as heard] to Tehran, has welcomed the Iranian foreign minister's statement on the formation of an Islamic front to liberate Palestine.

In a message he sent to Foreign Minister Brother Hoseyn Musavi today, he said: I anxiously studied your interview with PARS on 17 August 1981. I would like to praise the ideas expressed in this interview, particularly your proposal to form an Islamic front to fight imperialism and Zionism and to liberate the Holy Land, Palestine. I would be pleased to meet with you to study the formation of this front. I believe a patient dialogue on the formation of this front will make it possible to establish an efficient organization. If God supports you, none shall defeat you. [Koranic verse]

[Signed] Your brother, Salah az-Zawawi, Palestinian ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran

OIL MINISTER DEPARTS FOR OPEC MEETING IN GENEVA

LD172100 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] According to PARS, Mohammad Gharavi, the new oil minister, left Tehran this afternoon at the head of a delegation to attend OPEC's extraordinary meeting in Geneva.

In an interview before leaving Tehran, the minister said the 1-day meeting is being held at the request of OPEC members for the purpose of coordinating production and prices. He added: Imperialism is trying to force the price of crude as low as possible and to weaken the position of the producers of crude, who are the oppressed. It is the duty of Muslim nations and revolutionary governments to stand against these conspiracies.

In reply to a question on Iran's stand at the forthcoming OPEC meeting, the minister said: Any decision on the price of crude must be linked with the [fact of the] industrial countries transferring and imposing their inflation, and we will insist on our proposed prices. He added: We are in no hurry to sell the oil and we are determined to use the oil as a means for promoting the oppressed's standard of living.

God willing, this revolutionary nation will be blessed and helped by God, in order to present itself on the world market to the benefit of the world's oppressed, just as it succeeded in reducing to zero the value of the West's military products in the war between Iran and Iraq, and to save the world's oppressed from the distributing organizations of the world oppressors.

Commenting on Iran's proposed prices, the oil minister said: Our proposal will be based on transforming oil into petrochemical products.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES 602-604

602: 14 Aug Report

LD141855 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Aug 81

[Communique 602 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Greetings to all the brave and combative children of Islam and thanks to all the heroes on the battle scenes. A summary of the operations carried out by the forces defending the Islamic revolution against the enemy during the past 24 hours is brought to your attention:

On the Abadan-Khuninshahr front, as a result of our combative units' fire against enemy positions, five buildings used by the enemy as assembly points, a number of trenches and vehicles, one loader and two ammunition depots belonging to the Saddamists were completely destroyed. In the same region, due to the fire of a combative gendarmerie unit, one machinegun emplacement, one observation post and two positions occupied by Iraqi forces beyond the Arvand Rud were destroyed and a number of enemy personnel were killed or injured.

Gendarmerie units succeeded in destroying two concrete bunkers and two group trenches of the enemy and stopping enemy vehicle traffic. Also, the personnel of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran opened heavy-weapon fire on a column of enemy vehicles moving inside Iraqi territory opposite Abadan and inflicted some damages on this column. As a result of enemy fire against the city of Abadan, several residential units were destroyed and a number of our compatriots were martyred or injured.

In the Dezful region, powerful fire by the heavy weapons of the army of Islam set fire to some enemy equipment and a number of Saddam's forces were killed. As a result of fire by the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran against the positions of aggressors in this region, four tanks, a personnel carrier, an ammunition depot and two vehicles were destroyed. Ten Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and damages were inflicted on two radar installations and two tanks. In these operations, our heroes, while defending their positions, silenced the enemy artillery fire and stopped their activities.

At midnight on 13 August the enemy opened fire on the (Tarraf) region to the north of Karkheh Kur, and used its tanks to pretend an attack but sustained considerable damage because of strong resistance put up by our combatants and the artillery fire of our ground forces. The enemy attack was foiled. On the supply route between (Chamsar) and 'Eyn Khosh, Iraqi vehicles came under our artillery fire and two vehicles were destroyed. Our combative forces succeeded in dealing strong blows to Saddam's army by opening intensive fire on identified enemy targets in all fronts in the Dezful region during the past 24 hours.

In the Ahvaz region, the combatants of the Islamic army opened antibattery fire [as heard] on the enemy's artillery positions and mortar-launching pads and destroyed many of the enemy's heavy weapons. Also, on one of the fronts in the same region our forces fired shots at an infantry unit of the Iraqi Army which intended to penetrate our positions; as a result, they were forced to flee.

In the operational fronts to the west of our country, exchange of fire continued between the combative units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the forces of the enemy. Gendarmerie mortars backed by artillery destroyed a group trench in the Malekshahi region and a number of personnel were killed. The combatants set fire to 10 individual and collective trenches in Shur-e Shirin and destroyed them. In this operation a number of enemy personnel were killed or wounded.

Yesterday an NCO and an Iraqi soldier surrendered to military units on the Marivan front and were welcomed.

During the past 24 hours, six enemy aggressor planes appeared in the skies of the southern and western parts of our country and were forced to flee by the timely antiaircraft fire before being able to do anything.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

603: 15 Aug Report

LD151744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Aug 81

[Communique 603 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. Part of the operations carried out by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the battlefront situation over the last 24 hours is as follows:

On the Abadan-Darkhovin fronts, by mounting fire on the aggressor Iraqis' positions, the valiant Islamic combatants succeeded in setting ablaze seven heavy-machinegun and mortar positions, six observation posts, two vehicles, eight ammunition dumps, one tank position, one loader and several enemy and individual trenches. About 30 Iraqi personnel were killed or wounded during this operation.

The enemy positions in the occupied sector of Khuninshahr were also the target of our combatant units fire; as a result, one mortar position and two Iraqi ammunition dumps were destroyed. In the Arvand Rud region, one enemy observation post and two Iraqi personnel assembly buildings were destroyed by the Islam combatants. A number of Iraqis were killed or wounded during this operation.

The Al-Faw oil installations and the Iraqi garrison of Umm al-Qasr's ammunition dump were also the target of the army's artillery shells and damages were inflicted on the enemy.

In the Dezful region, Islam's valiants destroyed one ammunition dump, one heavy-machinegun position and one tank. Eight Iraqi personnel were killed during this operation. On another front in the Dezful region, two aggressors' observation posts were destroyed and their occupants killed.

Sporadic fire exchange continued in the Ahvaz region and our forces, while silencing the enemy's fire, inflicted major damage on an Iraq Armed Forces antiaircraft gun. During this operation some casualities were inflicted on the enemy, the exact number of which is unknown.

Fire exchanges also continued between the Iranian Armed Forces and the Iraqi aggressors on the western fronts.

In the Ilam [word indistinct] region, three enemy group trenches were destroyed and a number of Iraqi personnel were killed or wounded.

On 12 August 1981, five of the army's valiant combatants, two air force heroes, and four valiant gendarmerie personnel were martyred on the battlefronts.

Peace be upon their souls and long live their memories.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

604: 16 Aug Report

LD161842 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Communique 604 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Part of the operations of the combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the conditions on the battlefronts during the past 24 hours are brought to the attention of the dear compatriots:

Yesterday exchange of fire on most of the western fronts continued with our self-sacrificing forces maintaining their superiority. On the Marivan, Paveh and Meymak fronts, the fire was more intense than elsewhere. On the Meymak front, our fire crushed enemy positions, destroyed 2 75-mm enemy guns and killed or wounded about 15 enemy personnel.

On one of the Ilam fronts, the gendarmerie combatants, by returning fire at Iraqi positions, destroyed three bunkers and killed some personnel.

At 1810 yesterday exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued for 1 hour between our forces and the enemy in the Shur-e Shirin sector. As the result of our forces' fire, one ammunition truck and a number of trenches and foxholes of the Iraqi forces were destroyed.

During yesterday's operations on the fronts to the west of Dezful, the ground forces combatants brought enemy positions and bunkers under fire, destroyed three ammunition dumps, four trenches and foxholes, one tank dugout and one vehicle of the Iraqi forces and damaged one of their tanks. During this operation, all enemy activity and deployment was prevented, thanks to our forces' intense artillery fire.

During the battle and exchange of fire on the Abadan fronts, the combatants of the armed forces stationed in the region destroyed 10 trenches and foxholes, 5 mortar and machinegun bunkers, 2 observation posts, 7 ammunition dumps, 6 vehicles, 1 fuel tank, 1 106-mm gun and 1 mortar of the Iraqi forces and killed or wounded more than 20 of their personnel.

On 14 August three Iraqi soldiers and one Muslim Iraqi student surrendered themselves to our forces on the Abadan front and asked forasylum. They were welcomed with open arms and have returned to the bosom of Islam.

On the Khuninshahr front the navy's combatants brought enemy positions under fire, silenced the Iraqi forces' fire, destroyed two observation bunkers and two enemy assembly points and inflicted casualties and losses on the enemy.

The self-sacrificing police combatants, who alongside other armed forces combatants are striving to destroy the enemy, returned the Iraqi forces' fire along a section of the Abadan front, destroying five trenches and one observation post and killing a number of enemy personnel.

Yesterday, as on previous days, Abadan was the target of enemy artillery and other heavy weapons, which resulted in losses and casualties.

On the Ahvaz and Susange[illegible] fronts, sporadic exchange of fire continued.

SRI LANKA

EMERGENCY DECLARED; ARMED FORCES MOBILIZED

BK171255 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] A state of emergency has been declared under the Public Security Act from 1 p.m. today. Arson and looting will carry the death penalty. This step has been taken to maintain law and order throughout the country. Volunteer forces of the army, navy and the air force have already been mobilized. The armed forces with police powers are assisting in maintaining security in the city as well as a few areas where disturbances have occurred.

OFFICIAL HINTS AT FOREIGN LINK IN DISTURBANCES

BK171254 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Minister of State Anandatissa de Alwis hinted yesterday about the possibility of foreign involvement in the current wave of unrest in the country. He said that in order to take necessary steps to protect ourselves from this form of foreign intervention, we must study the pattern behind attempts to create disturbances.

There are people, de Alwis explained, who thrive on misery and they cause such situations to serve their own ends. They will raise political, religious, language or communal cries to create disharmony and will exploit the sensitive areas to achieve their narrow political purposes.

The minister pointed out that we should approach these problems with patience and understanding and avoid rash judgments and conflicts. In this context, he said the Satsana [religion] could provide guidance and assistance to bring about peace and harmony in the country.

JAYEWARDENE, U.S. ENVOY SPEAK AT CENTER OPENING

BK161305 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] American Ambassador Donald R. Toussaint yesterday categorically denied that the U.S. Government had plans or policy to develop Trincomalee into a military base or military facility. He said the U.S. Government had never discussed such a plan or policy with officials of the Sri Lanka Government, past or present, either in Sri Lanka or elsewhere.

Speaking in Kandy where President Jayewardene declared open a new building for the American Center there, Toussaint said he wished to make use of the opportunity to explode some of the myths, misunderstandings and misconceptions about U.S. Government relations with Sri Lanka. The one about Trincomalee was the longest standing of such myths.

As to the future, Ambassador Toussaint said American investors and entrepreneurs would, alongside those of other nations, hopefully join in seeking opportunities to help develop economic and commercial potential of Trincomalee. At the same time, American ships, naval and otherwise, may join with those of other nations in making visits to Trincomalee's magnificent natural harbour as in other ports of Sri Lanka.

President Jayewardene said there was singular misconception about Sri Lanka in the United States. Sri Lanka had the greatest regards for democratic traditions that had been given to the world by the Americans. Through her wisdom and experience, the country has to this day maintained the traditions in their highest form.

The president urged the ambassador to use his good office to bring about better understanding of Sri Lanka in his country. He expressed the hope that the new American Center would help in this process.